THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, 2nd July 1952.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, Madras, at half past ten of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

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I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Government Hospital, Villupuram.

* 20 Q.—SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to increase the accommodation by addition to the buildings and also an increase in the number of beds in the Villupuram Government Hospital?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The proposal will be considered at the time of drawing up the Budget for 1953–54."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN:—"What is the nature of the proposal for making extensions to this hospital?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Proposals for raising the bed-strength and appointing additional staff in a few hospitals are made every year in connexion with Part II Schemes. This proposal will be taken up next year."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN:—"I understand that something like Rs. 84,000 was sanctioned for making extensions to this hospital. If that proposal is kept in abeyance, can it be given effect to this year?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I have no information regarding what the hon. Gentleman is stating now."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI:—"Sir, the question was whether there is any proposal to increase the accommodation this year. May I know whether there is any proposal this year at all and, if so, what has been done?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"There is no proposal to raise the bed-strength of this hospital this year."

Cottage industries for uplift of Harijans.

* 21 Q.—SRI P. VENKATASUBBAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Co-operation be pleased to state—

(a) the amount allotted to the Co-operative department for the uplift of Harijans through cottage industries during 1950–51;

(b) whether the full amount was spent during the year 1950–51; and if not, the amount that has been allowed to lapse; and

(c) the reasons for the same?

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THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" (a) No specific amount was allotted to the Co-operative department for the uplift of Harijans through cottage industries during 1950–51. Government, however, sanctioned during 1950–51 assistance to the following two cottage industrial societies whose members are Harijans :—

(1) *The Vellarivalli Carpet Weavers' Co-operative Society, Salem district*—

(i) A subsidy of Rs. 1,000.
(ii) A loan of Rs. 1,000 repayable in five years.
} To meet the cost of looms.

(iii) One Junior Inspector of Co-operative Societies at Government cost.

(2) *The Pannur Leather Workers' Co-operative Society, Chittoor district*—

Ex gratia grant of Rs. 2,000. . Towards the share capital of the worker-members.

" (b) & (c) Do not arise."

SRI A. RATHINAM :—" Sir, may I know what steps the Government have taken for the benefit of the Scheduled Castes through the cottage industries? "

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" Whenever members of the Scheduled Castes form themselves into a co-operative society or a society for development of cottage industries, the Government will consider giving of grant or subsidies to it."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" May I know how many members there are in these two co-operative societies? "

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" Notice, please."

SRI P. VENKATASUBBAYYA :—" Will the Hon. Minister take steps to organize separate co-operative societies for cottage industries for the Harijans? "

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" The department is taking a great interest but the co-operation from the members concerned is not as much as expected."

SRI A. RATHINAM :—" May I know what amount has been spent by the Government during the year 1950–51 for this purpose? "

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" I have already given the figures, Sir."

Report on famine conditions in South Arcot.

* 22 Q.—SRI V. GOPALA GOUNDAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether any report was received from the Collector of South Arcot regarding the famine conditions prevailing in Gingee, Tindivanam and Villupuram taluk and if so, the action thereon?